

SECRET

Executive Registry
65-5388

20 September 1965

Dear Paul:

I am enclosing an Intelligence Research Aid on the estimated number, value, and distribution of merchant ships constructed by and for the principal Communist countries.

Because of its general interest to the Navy, I thought perhaps you would like a personal copy, for it has been distributed within government circles where it normally is of interest.

It is quite clear to me, as it has been to many over the past several years, that the USSR is rapidly building up a most sizeable and formidable merchant fleet.

Warmest best regards.

Sincerely,

W. F. Raborn

Encl No. 2 CIA/RR A. MRA 65-1, dtd Aug 65, subj. as above.

The Honorable Paul H. Nitze
Secretary of the Navy
Department of Defense
Washington, D. C.

WFR:mcm

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